

Prosperity Waits Upon Industry In El Paso, Tex.

And Industry is encouraged to put forth greater efforts and to attempt more pretentious things in this field of activity where the brain and the hand are called upon to exhibit their consummate skill and cunning. It is the old story of labor and reward, the story that industry loves and indolence dislikes. Year by year El Paso has been making progress in the industrial fields, gathering renown as she forced her way, gathering wealth and power and honor, and here are some of the things that make El Paso famous as recorded by the El Paso Chamber of Commerce in "The Story of a City."

Wages In El Paso

Wages for skilled and unskilled labor are as follows: Plumbers, \$6.00; steamfitters, \$6.00; machinists, \$4.00; carpenters, \$3.50 to \$4.00; masons, \$5.00 to \$6.00; bricklayers, \$5.00 to \$6.00; blacksmiths, \$3.00 to \$5.00; painters, \$3.50 to \$4.00; electricians, \$3.50; teamsters, \$2.00 to \$2.50; farm hands with board, from \$1.00 to \$1.25 per day, common labor, \$1.25 to \$1.50.

Jobbing Trade of El Paso

El Paso acts as trade distributor to a territory larger than the whole of France or Germany. One hundred and thirty-five wholesale houses representing sixty staple lines cover this enormous territory of over a thousand miles square, supplying a population of 300,000, and the trade in Mexico, as shown by our export records, is increasing by leaps and bounds, so that a number of the leading El Paso concerns have established branch houses in Mexico and the whole trade territory is thoroughly covered by their force of traveling salesmen.

The great expanse of our tributary trade territory in addition to its mines must be supplied with agricultural implements, wagons, harness, groceries, boots, shoes, hats, dry goods, lumber, drugs, canned goods, stoves and hundreds of other articles in wholesale quantities that are furnished principally from the complete stocks of our jobbers, the nearest competition being several hundred miles distant; and Los Angeles, Denver, Kansas City, Chicago and St. Louis are realizing this fact, together with the favorable freight rates we enjoy, and are establishing branch houses here to be nearer the buyers and to supply the rapidly increasing demand for every line of merchandise.

The extension of the Harriman lines to and along the west coast of Mexico and the extension of the railroads purchased by the Pearson interests into the rich mineral section of Northern Mexico will open up a wonderfully rich territory, by which the trade possibilities of El Paso will be extended to an unlimited degree.

Our larger jobbing interests represent an investment of nearly \$3,000,000, and the principal retail trade represents nearly \$2,000,000, carrying stocks of up-to-date goods from which the most fastidious can be satisfied.

ONE OF EL PASO'S NEW CONCRETE STRUCTURES.

El Paso a Mining Center.

The city of El Paso finds its chief support in being the logical and real distributing point and commercial center for the largest deposits of mineral wealth in North America, a country which is newest in its operation, and already unsurpassed in its actual production.

A glance at the map will explain why El Paso has become a great trading center in mining machinery and supplies. Arizona, New Mexico, Western Texas and the states of Sonora and Chihuahua in Mexico form a complete circle of mining activity, so that El Paso is literally surrounded by copper, silver, gold, quicksilver, lead, iron and coal mines, some of these being of enormous output; and all being noted for their steady production.

Mining in Arizona and New Mexico. (El Paso, Texas, the Center.)

Copper is, of course, the principal ore found in these properties, and in the Territory of Arizona alone, seventy-nine producing mines report a total output in 1908 of \$54,788,563.00. The silver product during the same period was 2,571,697 ounces; gold, 136,059 ounces; lead, 2,995,185 lbs., and zinc, 2,457,099 lbs.

In New Mexico the variety of production is enormous. During the past year not only the precious metals were mined in large quantities but natural cement, coal, zinc, turquoise and meerschaum were taken out in large quantities. The coal fields of New Mexico are of vastly greater commercial importance than is generally appreciated. Prof. A. K. Adams, of the New Mexico School of Mines, states that there are about 10,000,000 acres of coal fields in New Mexico, and although the annual production is more than 2,500,000 tons, the supply has scarcely been touched as yet. Each of the coal fields has from two to six seams of workable coal, and in many cases the coal mined is more than five feet thick.

Next to coal in importance comes copper. Potentially, however, the worth of iron is greater through the territory. One concern works a force of 240 men, and ships as high as 500 tons a day. During 1908, as nearly as can be calculated from the figures obtainable, 4,900,000 lbs. of copper were mined, and 10,600 ounces of gold, valued at \$219,100.00, while the silver production was estimated at \$32,000 ounces fine. The production of lead amounted to about 1350 tons, and one mine in the Magdalena district produced 5300 tons of zinc in seven months' time. Even a brief review of the mineral wealth of New Mexico should not fail to mention the turquoise found in this territory, as well as the natural cement known as the white sands, which is proving to be a profitable and noteworthy addition to the list of mineral products in this section.

Mining in Texas.

Only one thing keeps Texas from ranking higher as a mining state excepting precious metal and that is her overshadowing greatness in other industries. The fact that informed people look upon her as so great in agriculture and stock raising, in oil and lumber production, has minimized in popular estimation, both at home and abroad, the importance of other resources.



The Richard Caples building, corner San Antonio and Broadway, completed in 1910. This was the first reinforced concrete building structure erected in El Paso.

It is only fair to say that the true mineral belt of Texas lies in that typically western section known as the Trans-Pecos country, a vast region that is as far west as Colorado, with El Paso even farther west than Denver, a country into which the Rocky mountains extend, identical in character with the territory extending from the eastern foothills to the Pacific coast.

The mountains here contain the same character of gold, silver, copper, lead and other metals that has been unearthed in California, Colorado, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico and Arizona.

The Trans-Pecos portion of Texas is surrounded by the iron and coal of New Mexico, the copper of the southwestern and neighboring points of Arizona, and the gold, silver and lead that abound in the mountains directly across the river in Mexico. To care for the latter there is maintained at El Paso the largest lead-base smelter in the world.

The production of copper in this district is practically a new thing. A few years ago Cananea and Bisbee were not heard of by the general public, and were not considered seriously by the people even of the Southwest, yet now these camps ship through El Paso to the markets of the world copper that would be sufficient to supply the needs of the United States.

A short time ago coal mines in this section were not operated. Today New Mexico, lying directly north of El Paso, is being called upon to supply and is shipping through El Paso coal and coke for the vast industries of rapidly developing Arizona and Mexico.

Crossing the artificial barrier that separates us from the demonstrated wealth in mineral deposits that exist north, west and south, and coming to our own Texas soil, we find in this section the same kind of mountains and formations that have given birth to Cripple Creek, to Goldfield and to Bisbee. Mountains filled with ore only waiting for the hand of development.

El Paso, the largest county in Texas, is rich in the character and variety of her minerals, ranging from hundreds of acres of sulphur deposits on the plains northwest from Toyah, to Mount Franklin, overlooking the city of El Paso, the extreme western mountain of Texas, which is laden on the west with a solid bed of cement of immense proportions, and opening up on the east rich veins of tin ore that promise to make Texas as famous as a tin producer as she has become with quicksilver. These tin veins, like the quicksilver mines, are entitled to special consideration, because of the rareness of their character and the recognition by experts, both private and of the government of their value.

The portion of Texas west of the Pecos river is essentially a mining country, surrounded by districts whose chief prosperity is gained from mines, and being of the same character, it is but natural that it will develop its proportion of mineral. Already the city of El Paso, because of the progress of the surrounding country, has within ten years climbed from a position of no consequence to the equal of Denver, Salt Lake and San Francisco in the distribution of mining machinery and supplies.

WRITE TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING FOR FULL AND COMPLETE INFORMATION

NEWMAN INVESTMENT CO., 226 Mesa Ave., El Paso, Texas.

AUSTIN & MARR, Caples Bldg., El Paso, Texas.

A. P. COLES & BROS., 204 N. Oregon St., El Paso, Texas.

WM. MOELLER, Herald Bldg., El Paso, Texas.

MAPLE & CO., 209 1/2 Mesa Ave., El Paso, Texas.

J. R. FISK, Trust Bldg., El Paso, Texas.

LOOMIS BROS., 202 Texas St., El Paso, Texas.

LATTA & HAPPER, 207 Mesa Ave., El Paso, Texas.

MATHEWS-CHAMPLIN REALTY CO., 117 N. Stanton St., El Paso, Texas.

BUCHOZ & SCHUSTER, Caples Bldg., El Paso, Texas.

H. L. HOWELL, Herald Building, El Paso, Texas.

ANDERSON-FILLER REALTY CO., 27-28 Bassett-Edwards Block, El Paso, Texas.

CASSIDY & DAVIDSON, 211 Mills St., El Paso, Texas.

HATTON REALTY CO., City Nat'l. Bank Building, El Paso, Texas.

LONE STAR LAND CO., 213 Texas St., El Paso, Texas.

R. C. BAILEY LAND CO., Orndorff Bldg., 306 Mesa Ave.,

JOSEPHUS BOGGS, 15 Morgan Bldg., El Paso, Texas.

FELIX MARTINEZ, 14 Plaza Block, El Paso, Texas.

PETERMAN & LANSDEN REALTY CO., Ysleta, Texas.

PENCE BROS., 217 Texas St., El Paso, Texas.